Attachment A Health Care Reform Veto Items: Outside Sections

Public Health Council

Section 5

I am vetoing this section because the Legislature has given authority to private organizations to make appointments to the Public Health Council. Appointment of these members as prescribed by the legislature in this section is a violation of the separation of powers required by the Massachusetts Constitution.

MassHealth Eligibility for AWSS

Section 27

I am vetoing this section because it codifies into General Law, MassHealth Essential Benefits for special status aliens, and specifically mandates that the benefits shall not be subject to sponsor income deeming or related restrictions. Federal reimbursement for medical coverage for special status aliens was eliminated by President Bill Clinton in 1996, when he signed into law a measure requiring sponsors to sign an affidavit swearing they will take personal financial responsibility for these aliens in their care. It is important to take into consideration the financial status of the sponsor in determining if the medical coverage for these special status aliens should be made available.

MassHealth Optional Services

Section 29

I am vetoing this section because it will cost \$75 million annually and is therefore financially unsustainable. Furthermore, this provision would extend to adult Medicaid recipients a dental benefit not provided by 60 percent of employers in Massachusetts.

Establishes Fair Share Assessment

Section 47

I am vetoing this section because it is not necessary to implement or finance health care reform.

Waivers and Federal Financial Participation

Section 112

I am vetoing this section because it inappropriately imposes Legislative controls on Executive Branch management decisions.

Behavioral Health Procurement Report

Section 113

I am vetoing this section because it inappropriately imposes Legislative controls on Executive Branch management decisions.

Report on Fair Share Assessment Impact

Section 134

I am vetoing this section consistent with my veto of section 47 of this act.

Terms of Public Health Council

Section 137

I am vetoing this section consistent with my veto of section 5 of this act.